



# NAVAJO COUNTY

## Board of Supervisors

Jonathan M. Nez • Jesse Thompson • Jason E. Whiting • David Tenney • Dawnafe Whitesinger

*"We are Navajo County"*

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January 13, 2015

Mr. Cal Joyner | Regional Forester  
United States Forest Service | Region III  
333 Broadway SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Tom Osen

Mr. Joyner,

Navajo County has long been a stakeholder interested in the work of the United States Forest Service (USFS). We are part of a consortium of local elected officials, members of the natural resource industry, freight/transportation, educational/research leaders, environmental community members and concerned citizens who all want effective and meaningful policy, leadership and action when it comes to managing the natural resources that are under our collective stewardship, and moving forward with actions that produce positive outcomes. Over the past several decades, Navajo County has been working with the United States Forest Service to improve the conditions of the forests in Arizona, specifically the eastern portions of the State.

We have placed a premium on the partnership, relationships and engagement of the leadership in the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest. We are extremely grateful for the service of Forest Supervisor Jim Zornes, and for the numerous projects he and his team have worked on to create a better model for our physical and economic environment.

It goes without saying that we have a strong interest in maintaining continuity and consistency in the relationship that exists between our members and the leadership of the forest. Thus, we would put forward the name of Tom Osen and offer our recommendation to support his application for the Forest Supervisor position on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Tom brings consistency and connectivity to the management and oversight of the forest in connection to our partners and cooperators. With the various ongoing and planned opportunities we are all engaged with, and with Tom's first-hand knowledge of their genesis and development, we feel that it is critical to have his mindset and background as part of the future of the Apache Sitgreaves.

Tom has a strong tie to the Timber and Grazing Industry, and he is a strong advocate of active management of our National Forest lands in support of our local, state and national economies and goals. Tom has an affable demeanor, he identifies well with the people of our region, and we have been the recipients of his generous open door policy towards the public.

Tom has a great reputation in the Forest Service. Chiefly, he has the background, drive and capacity to “get things done” and work through roadblocks and challenges. This is a quality that we have come to expect from the Supervisor of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, and a quality that we prize above almost any other.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this recommendation. We have a large degree of confidence in Tom which has been generated over the course of a number of years. If there are any aspects of his performance or collaborative approach that we can describe in further detail, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Chairman David Tenney | Chairman  
Navajo County Board of Supervisors

